

INFORMATION REPORT - INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR (Arctic)	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	1. Warships in the Barents Sea 2. Port of Onega	DATE DISTR.	16 November 1955	25X1
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT		
DATE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES		25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. At about 2000 hours GMT on 24 July 1955, three naval vessels were on a southerly course due south of Sosnovets Island. One was 200 to 250 feet long, and had one funnel with a mast at the forward edge. The other two were small vessels which resembled the former German Schnellboote.

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At 1930 hours GMT on 11 August, six naval vessels were sailing in column, with an interval of two or three cable lengths between each other, on a westerly course at low speed 20 miles west of Kharlov Island (N 68-49, E 37-20). All were the same; about 225 to 230 feet long, motor driven, with an overhanging bow, a twin-gun mount on the foredeck, and a bridge with a radar dome, a direction finder, and a signal mast.

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There was a small break in the deck at the bridge, a low funnel, a twin-gun mount, another slight break in the deck at this mount, and a cruiser stern (see sketch No. 1). At about 1300 hours GMT on 12 August, a small destroyer was patrolling near Cape Gorodetskiy (N 67-42, E 40-59). On the same day several hours later, there was a large naval vessel near Svyatoy Nos. It was sailing along the coast on a northeasterly course. The same vessel was seen several times; the last time was late in the evening of 13 August off Kildin Island. It then was on a northeasterly course. It had two funnels, two gun turrets (sic) on the foredeck, and a break in the deck at the forward funnel.

2. At 1530 hours GMT on 22 August, two very large naval vessels were on a northeasterly course about 15 nautical miles northwest of Cape Letnyy Orlov. They were alike; each had a sharply raked bow, a pronounced sheer in the foredeck, flush deck, a low bridge with data computer, two similar funnels set far apart with considerable space between the bridge and the forward funnel, a raked mast forward of the forward funnel, and a mast which was possibly more perpendicular forward of the after funnel. There was some equipment forward of the bridge and abaft the after funnel.

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(see sketch No. 2).

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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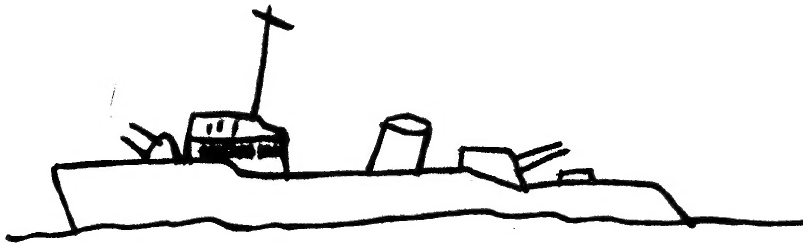
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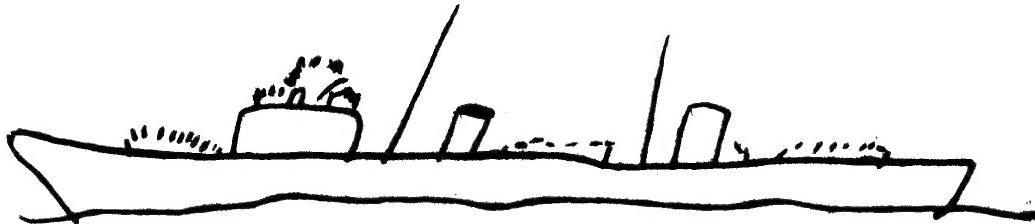
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3. They were still improving the outer end of the quay. The ferry berth was not observed to be in use but a boat with workers on it often put in right nearby. There were no factory installations on the quay side [redacted] At the shipping office there was something which resembled an expansion plan for the port of Onega with large buildings sketched in.
4. Inspection was very superficial on arrival in Onega. On departure, the crew was mustered amidships and the cabins and engine room were inspected. All lighters which came with lumber to the loading place were very carefully inspected. The soldiers who made the inspection were equipped with steel bars. They always searched below deck.

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Sketch No. 1:Naval Vessels off Murman Coast

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Sketch No. 2:Vessals off Cape Letnyy Orlov

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